

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently amended): A method comprising:
 obtaining information describing color properties of a device that generates an image; and
 embedding the information within raster image data associated with the image using
 steganography such that the embedded information does not substantially affect the visual
 appearance of the image to a user.

Claim 2 (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein the information includes a color profile.

Claim 3 (Original): The method of claim 2, wherein the color profile is one of the following:
 a spectral profile and a colorimetric profile.

Claim 4 (Original): The method of claim 2, further comprising extracting the color profile
 from the image.

Claim 5 (Original): The method of claim 4, further comprising modifying the image based on
 the color profile, and displaying the modified image.

Claim 6 (Original): The method of claim 4, further comprising modifying the image based on
 the color profile, and printing the modified image.

Claim 7 (Original): The method of claim 1, wherein the information describing color
 properties includes a path indicating a network location of a color profile for the image.

Claim 8 (Original): The method of claim 7, wherein the path is an internet uniform resource locator.

Claim 9 (Currently amended): The method of claim 1, wherein the image includes a border, and wherein embedding information using steganography includes embedding the information within the border using steganography.

Claim 10 (Currently amended): The method of claim 1, further comprising embedding an indicator within the image, the indicator indicating that information describing color properties of the image is stored within the image using steganography.

Claim 11 (Currently amended): The method of claim 1, further comprising embedding an indicator within the image, the indicator identifying where the information describing color properties of the image is stored within the image using steganography.

Claim 12 (Currently amended): The method of claim 1, further comprising attaching an indicator to the image, the indicator indicating that information describing color properties of the image is stored within the image using steganography.

Claim 13 (Currently amended): The method of claim 1, further comprising creating a border for the image and embedding the information within raster image data of the border using steganography.

Claim 14 (Currently amended): A method comprising:
receiving an image file of an image, the image including information describing color properties of the image embedded in raster image data of the image file using steganography; and
extracting the information describing color properties of the image from the raster image data of the image file.

Claim 15 (Original): The method of claim 14, wherein the information describing color properties of the image includes a color profile.

Claim 16 (Original): The method of claim 15, wherein the color profile is one of a spectral profile and a colorimetric profile.

Claim 17 (Original): The method of claim 15, further comprising displaying the image according to the color profile.

Claim 18 (Original): The method of claim 15, further comprising printing the image according to the color profile.

Claim 19 (Original): The method of claim 14 wherein the information describing color properties includes a path to find a color profile for the image.

Claim 20 (Original): The method of claim 19, wherein the path is an internet uniform resource locator.

Claim 21 (Currently amended): The method of claim 14, further comprising, prior to extracting the embedded information, detecting the embedded information.

Claim 22 (Currently amended): The method of claim 21, wherein detecting the embedded information comprises detecting an indicator.

Claim 23 (Currently amended): The method of claim 22, wherein detecting the indicator comprises detecting the indicator steganographically embedded within the image.

Claim 24 (Original): The method of claim 22, wherein detecting the indicator comprises detecting the indicator attached to the image.

Claim 25 (Currently amended): An image file comprising:
raster image data; and
information embedded within the raster image data by steganography, the information describing color properties of the image, such that the embedded information does not substantially affect the visual appearance of the image to a user.

Claim 26 (Original): The image of claim 25, wherein the information embedded within the raster image data comprises a color profile.

Claim 27 (Original): The image of claim 25, wherein the information embedded within the raster image data alters the image.

Claim 28 (Original): The image of claim 27, wherein the alteration is not perceivable to a human observer.

Claim 29 (Currently amended): The image of claim 25, wherein the image includes a border and the information embedded within the raster image data by steganography is steganographically embedded in the border.

Claim 30 (Currently amended): A computer readable medium carrying program code that upon execution:

embeds information describing color properties of a device within raster image data associated with an image using steganography such that the embedded information does not substantially affect the visual appearance of the image to a user.

Claim 31 (Original): The computer readable medium of claim 30 further carrying program code that upon execution:

extracts the information from the image.

Claim 32 (Original): The computer readable medium of claim 31 further carrying program code that upon execution:

modifies the image based on the information.

Claim 33 (Original): The computer readable medium of claim 30 further carrying program code that upon execution:

embeds an indicator within the image.

Claim 34 (Original): The computer readable medium of claim 30 further carrying program code that upon execution:

attaches an indicator to the image.

Claim 35 (Currently amended): The computer readable medium of claim 30 further carrying program code that upon execution:

creates a border for the image and embeds the information within raster image data of the border using steganography.

Claim 36 (Currently amended): A computer readable medium carrying program code that upon execution:

extracts information describing color properties of the image from raster image data of the image file, the information being embedded within the image using steganography.

Claim 37 (Currently amended): The computer readable medium of claim 36 further carrying program code that upon execution:

detects the embedded information describing color properties of the image.

Claim 38 (Original): The computer readable medium of claim 36 further carrying program code that upon execution:

modifies the image based on the information.

Claim 39 (Currently amended): An image acquisition device comprising:
memory that stores a color profile of the device; and
a data embedding module that embeds the color profile in image data acquired by the device using steganography.

Claim 40 (Original): The image acquisition device of claim 39, wherein the device is a scanner.

Claim 41 (Original): The image acquisition device of claim 39, wherein the device is a digital camera.

Claim 42 (Currently amended): A system comprising:
an image acquisition device; and
a host computer coupled to the image acquisition device, the host computer including a memory device that stores a color profile of the image acquisition device and a data embedding module that embeds the color profile in image data acquired by the image acquisition device using steganography.